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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/659,841	09/11/2000	YUKITOSHI TAKEUCHI	35.C14786	5609

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EXAMINER

SHERRILL, JASON L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 06/20/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/659,841

Applicant(s)

TAKEUCHI, YUKITOSHI

Examiner

Jason L Sherrill

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,5 and 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoshima (U.S. Patent No. 6,464,416), and further in view of Peng (U.S. Patent No. 6,108,108).

For claim 1, Aoshima discloses an image reading apparatus comprising a carriage for mounting a scanning means (3, Fig. 1; col. 7, lines 45-49), a cable for transmitting a moving force to a carriage (16, Fig. 1; col. 7, lines 51-54), and a guide member for guiding the carriage in the movement direction (4, Fig. 1; col. 7, lines 39-44).

Aoshima fails to disclose an original mounting table, a scanning means for scanning an original mounted on the original mounting table, wherein the carriage is biased in a rotating direction centering about an axis perpendicular to the original mounting table by the tension in the cable.

Peng discloses an original mounting table (Fig. 1; col. 2, lines 33-37), a scanning means for scanning an original mounted on the original mounting table (21, Fig. 1; col. 2, line 63 – col. 3, line 2), wherein the carriage is biased in a rotating direction centering about an axis perpendicular to the original mounting table by the tension in the cable (29, Fig. 1; col. 3, lines 3-27). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was

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made to combine the carriage scanning mechanism of Aoshima and the platen scanner of Peng because both teach carriages for scanning devices wherein the driving units use pulleys and a cable attached to a spring to drive the scanning unit. The improvement on Aoshima by Peng would allow for scanning of documents mounted on a platen.

For claim 3, Aoshima discloses a driving source mounted on the carriage for driving the carriage (11, Fig. 3; col. 7, lines 59-63), a driving pulley mounted on the carriage for transmitting a driving force from the driving source to the cable (13, Fig. 3; col. 7, line 60 – col. 8, line 11), and an idler pulley mounted on the carriage for biasing the cable (30, Fig. 6; col. 11, lines 1-9), wherein the carriage is moved by a reaction force received from the cable (col. 7, line 59 – col. 8, line 34).

For claim 4, Aoshima discloses a carriage comprising two sliders sliding with the guide member, and both sliders are biased toward the guide member by the tension of the cable (5 & 7, Fig. 2; col. 7, lines 39-50).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 2, 5, and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


a. Tsai (U.S. Patent No. 6,005,685) discloses a transmission system for a contact type image scanner.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason L Sherrill whose telephone number is 703-306-4053. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:00.

5. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on 703-305-4712. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-5397 for regular communications and 703-306-5397 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

JLS
June 15, 2003


EDWARD COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600